more than Rs. 1000 crores on sports. But our country is spezndng only Rs. 40 crores on sports. It is very difficult to create infrastructure. That is why we have involved the public sector and the private sector also to come forward and give some resource to sports so that we can build up our sports units. Madam, I request, through you, the hon. Members of this House to fight over this matter with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: ...The Minister is right. We must recognise our dismal performance in Olympics. We m ust recognise the fact. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order please. Order. Order in the House please. (Interruptions).

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: ...You should take up the challenge.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do not be that enthusiastic in this House Question No. 445.

Popularisation of lab to land programmes

*445. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner 104 collaborating centres under the supervision of Eight Zonal Committes take the technology packages from the scientists to the farmers; and

(b) what effective and viable steps are taken to popularise lab-to-land programmes so that farmers could step up their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The technology packages are transferred by the scientists under the Lab to Land Programme at 104 Lab to land centres located in ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and selected Voluntary Organizations, through demonstrations, training and farm advisory services to small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers. Eight zonal coordinating units of the Council supervise and monitor the Lab to Land programme in their respective zones.

(b) Under the Lab to Land Programme, small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers are adopted by the lab to land centres. The survey is conducted to find out the resource endowment of the adopted farmers. The suitable low cost technologies are identified and demonstrated to the farmers for stepping up their production.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, agricultural production is to be increased and productivity is to be improved. For that, the Lab to Land Programme is very much essential. Not only that. The Lab to Land Programme should be effective. I want to know whether there are enough infrastructural schemes to disseminate all the findings to the agriculturists. In this connection. I would be very glad if the Minister throws some light on the object of the project. At the same time, I also want to know from him as to how many centres are there in Tamil Nadu to disseminate such information.

SHRI K. C. LENKA: Madam, the Lab to Land centre deals with the poor farmers in the villages and demonstrates to them the low cost technologies. The main purpose of this Programme is to bring the farmers and the scientists in close contact and to introduce the relevant low cost technologies which would help in diversification of labour use and creating supplementary sources of income in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, sericulture, apiculture, and fisheries. Madam, these lab to land centres give vocational training to marginal and small farmers and landless labourers so that they can have additional income. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, in Tamil

Nadu we have eight lab to land centres where landless labourers and small farmers get training in low cost technologies.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, I have already said that the language of the lab should be in such a way that the agriculturist should get it in the proper perspective. So, the communication should be in a simple and understandable manner. I would like to request the hon. Minister to take steps in this regard. I want to know from him the number of families who have adopted the low cost technologies and what assistance is being rendered by the Government to the families that have adopted the low cost technologies.

SHRI K. C. LENKA: Madam, the low cost technologies are being given to the farmers in simple terms by vocational training, by publications, by arranging kisan melas at the centre and also demonstrating the products in their fields, and they are being trained in different parts of the country to improve their production and also to increase their income. Under this Programme, the families adopted get Rs. 500 each in kind, in the shape of fertilizers, pesticides and instruments. During 1990-91, the number of adopted families was 12,054 and in 1991-92 the total number of adopted families was 24,400 in the country.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Madam, the Minister is giving a statement with half-truths and untruths. It is my experience that in most of the cases, whether it is the ICAR centres or Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, etc., the Extension Department of the Agriculture Ministry is not taking any interest in all these programmes. It is not obligatory or compulsory on the Extension Department to participate in the same. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken for having coordination between the Extension Department and all these Centres and to punish the erring personnel who abstain themselves from these activities.

Another question I would like to ask in this regard is that the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, about two years back, submitted a plan to locate Krishi Vigyan Kendras at the rate of one in each district. The then Government also announced acceptance of the proposal. The Chief Minister went on record on the floor of the Andhra Pradesh Assembly that Krishi Vigyan Kendras had been sanctioned by the Central Government at the rate of one in each district. But I do not know what happened to it. The present Government put its foot down, and it did not meterialise. So, what steps does the Government propose to see that the proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University to locate Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district, to identify the districts and to start the Kendras, is implemented without further loss of time?

SHRI K. C. LENKA: Madam, as far as the first part of the question is concerned, it is true that there is lack of coordination between the Lab-to-Land Centres and the Extension Department of the State Government. It needs better coordination between them so that this low-cost technology could reach the poor families. This low-cost technology is very important because more than 70 per cent of the farmers are landless farmers and agricultural labourers, marginal and small farmers. For them only this low-cost technology has been evolved. So, it needs close contact and coordination among the State Government, the Extension Officers and the scientists posted at the research centres so that this technology can reach the poor farmers.

About the second part, I have no information on the proposal given by the Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University. But during the Eighth Five-Year Plan, on principle we have decided to start at least one KVC in

each district of the country. During the period of the last Government, the hon. Member mentioned that it was announced. It was announced, but there was no provision of the money. The previous Agricultural Minister had announced for 74 KVCs, but there was no provision of the money. This year we have provided the money, and 74 KVCs have already been sanctioned. Now we are proposing to establish 100 KVCs more, but due to financial constraints we have not been able to provide for them. (Interruptions).

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल : उपसभापति महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि हमारे देश में ऐसे भी प्रदेश हैं जो सूखे में रहते हैं और रेगिस्तान हैं। उन क्षेत्रों के लिए ऐसी कौन सी टैक्नॉलॉजी हमारे साइंटिस्टों ने तैयार की है जिसके द्वारा रेगिस्तान को हरा-भरा किया जा सकता है। मुझे भी जानकारी मिली है और हम सब यह बात जानते भी हैं कि इजराइल से हमारे संबंध अभी कुछ ठीक हुए हैं। तो वहां पर एक ट्रिप टेक्नोलॉजी नाम की टेक्नोलॉजी है जिसके द्वारा कम से कम पानी के सिंचन से अच्छी खेती की जा सकती है तो मंत्री जी क्या बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि ऐसी कोई टेक्नोलॉजी हमारे सेंटर्स में डेवलप करेंगे या हम कोलैबोरेशन लेने में इंटैरेस्टेड हैं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

SHRI K. C. LENKA: Madam, for dry-land area, the agricultural scientists have invented the dry-land farming technology. During the Eighth Five-Year Plan the main thrust is on dry-land farming. The technology we have already got, is being implemented in the dry-land areas of the country.

Regarding collection of water, something has come up. I do not know the exact technology which has come up. But the technology which has come up is about gathering water from the air. This is now under examination, whether this water can be sufficient for being utilised in the agricultural fields. Whether it will be a viable project for the farmers is under examination. The ICAR is looking into that project.

कृषि मंत्री (श्री बलराम जाखड़) माननीया उपसभापति महोदया, मैं एक इन्फरमेशन देना चाहता हू अपने माननीय सदस्यों को कि अभी-अभी मैं एक प्रोग्राम में से आया हूं जिसमें कि हमने स्पेस रिसर्च सेन्टर की मार्फत सेन्टर कायम करने शुरू किये हैं जिससे कि इन्टरक्शन होगा किसानों का और विशेषज्ञों का। उस सैटलाइट की मार्फत सीधा प्रोजेक्शन टी.वी. पर उस एरिया के मतल्लिक आयेगा और उससे पता लग जायेगा कि नीचे पानी कितना है, ऊसर भूमि कितनी है और सेलिनिटी कितनी है और क्या-क्या तरीके हम कायम कर सकते हैं। उसका बड़ा भारी फायदा होगा किसानों का। अभी भिवानी, तोशाम और चरखी-दादरी आदि क्षेत्रों से सीधे सम्पर्क करके बातचीत कर रहे हैं। मैं और कुमारमंगलम जी अभी आये है। मैं आपको यह बता देना चाहता हू कि एक नई उपलब्धि है। इसका प्रसार करने की भी हमारी चेष्टा है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा इलाकों में, सारे भारत में फैलाकर सीधा प्रसारित कर सकें।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल : यह बहुत अच्छी बात कही है। लेकिन मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह जो सारा प्रचार-प्रसार कराना चाहते हैं तो कृपया राष्ट्रभाषा में और रीजनल लैंग्वेज में कराने का कष्ट करें ताकि किसानों को लाभ हो सके... **(व्यवधान)**

उपसभापति : आप बैठिये रामजस जी, Q. No. **446.** (Interruptions) There should be something to ask. Now the Minister has given a complete answer.

Command area development programme in the States

*446. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state: